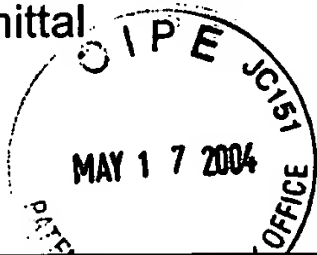


Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Application Number	09/982,459
Filing Date	October 17, 2001
First Named Inventor	Ralf M. Schmitt
Art Unit	2825
Examiner Name	Annette M. Thompson
Attorney Docket Number	SUN-P5405

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

- b. ☒ Enclosed

- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply  
ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)  
iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  
iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)  
b. ☒ Other Replacement Sheets- Figs. 1-5

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_  
i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)  
ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)  
iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 4,098 enclosed  
c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print /Type)	Masako Ando	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	L.R. 37 CFR §10.9(b)
Signature		Date	5/13/04

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Name (Print /Type)	Carol Diez	Signature		Date	5-13-04
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

05/18/2004 HDEMESS1 00000116 09982459 If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

01 FC:1801  
02 FC:1202

770.00 OP  
108.00 OP



Docket No. SUN-P5405  
(811173-000073)

RCE  
IFW  
2825

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Ralf M. Schmitt et al.  
SERIAL NO.: 09/982,459  
FILING DATE: October 17, 2001  
TITLE: Unified Database System to Store, Combine, and Manipulate  
Clock Related Data for a Grid-Based Clock Distribution Design  
EXAMINER: Annette M. Thompson (Tel. No.: (571) 272-1909)  
(Fax No.: (703) 872-9306)  
ART UNIT: 2825

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on the date printed below:

Date:

5-13-04

Name:

Carol Diez

Mail Stop RCE  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of January 13, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 15 of this paper and include attached replacement sheets.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 16 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including the following documents is attached following page 19 of this paper:

Amended drawings (FIGS. 1-5).

A copy of the Office Actions of February 27, 2003, July 14, 2003, and December 17, 2003 in the U.S. Patent Application No. 09/982,452.

A copy of grant of Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b) for the undersigned to prosecute the patent application before the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the file record.